



## Planting a Commercial Chestnut Orchard: Our Story

By Art & Carl DeKleine, DeKleine Orchards, Hudsonville, Michigan | [info@dekleineorchards.com](mailto:info@dekleineorchards.com)

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prepared by Jack Kirk

During the early 1990's, we, brothers Art and Carl DeKleine, were drawn to the prospect of growing chestnuts commercially. With some basic knowledge of commercial fruit growing, and one year of limited chestnut research, 100 seedlings were planted on rolling sandy loam soil in west central Michigan. Nearly all died. For the next four years, that experience was repeated again and again. New methods to kill trees were invented, many stories were shared, many lessons were learned, and beneficial practices discovered that in time allowed our trees to thrive.

Once some confidence was gained, we removed 700 seedlings and planted a 5-acre block of grafted stock, then a 10-acre block, and finally transplanted mature trees to another 10-acre block. It is our most recent "story" that we share with you here.

As two retired guys, we like to share stories, especially chestnut stories. We firmly believe that we have benefited significantly just by talking to other chestnut enthusiasts. Sometimes we let our trees suggest good farming practices. When we share our story about our new chestnut planting, we invariably get the question, "And who will take over when you are older?" We say, "We don't know." Then comes one of two responses: "Surely you have something in mind!" or "You're just like your dad!"

**Once upon a time**, about four years ago, a neighbor with an adjacent land-locked 8 acres asked if we would like to purchase it for trees. The neighbor's dream and our dream quickly produced some serious considerations: site considerations, soil considerations, financial considerations, tree availability, layout, water and infrastructure, and our age.

*Continued on page 4...*

# THE CHESTNUT GROWER

January 2019

## About Chestnut Growers of America, Inc.

The purpose of Chestnut Growers of America is to promote chestnuts, to disseminate information to growers of chestnuts, to improve communications between growers within the industry, to support research and breeding work, and generally to further the interests and knowledge of chestnut growers. CGA advocates the delivery of only high-quality chestnuts to the marketplace.

CGA began as the Western Chestnut Growers in 1996 in Oregon where about 30 or so chestnut growers understood the need to join forces to promote chestnuts in the U.S. Eventually they realized that they needed to be a national organization and solicited memberships from every grower in the country, which took the membership to over 100. The name of the organization was changed to Chestnut Growers of America, Inc., and it was granted 501(c)(5) status. Annual meetings take place around the country in an effort to make it possible for a maximum number of people to attend. A newsletter, *The Chestnut Grower*, is published quarterly and distributed by mail and/or email. CGA maintains an extensive resource site available only to members containing information helpful in growing and marketing. Visit [chestnutgrowers.org](http://chestnutgrowers.org) for more information.

## Board of Directors

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## Annual Membership Dues

Single membership, \$35; Household membership, \$45; Associate membership, \$50. Members receive *The Chestnut Grower* quarterly. Emailed newsletters are included. Mailed newsletters are an additional \$5 per year. A \$5 discount applies if payment is postmarked or submitted through the website by Feb. 15. Foreign mailings may include a surcharge to cover the cost of additional postage.

## Advertising Rates

Full page, camera ready	\$20.00
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Quarter page	\$10.00
Business card (4 issues)	\$15.00
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Email ads to [chestnutgrowersofamerica@gmail.com](mailto:chestnutgrowersofamerica@gmail.com).

Send payment for ads to Jack Kirk, 2300 Bryan Park Av., Richmond, VA 23228. Make checks payable to Chestnut Growers of America, Inc. OR visit [www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html) to submit payment online via PayPal.

## Deadlines

Issue	Deadline	Mailed
Winter	Dec. 10	Jan. 1
Spring	Mar. 10	April 1
Summer	June 10	July 1
Fall	Sept. 10	Oct. 1

## Editorial Opinion

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## Message from CGA President Roger Blackwell, Chestnut Grower



## Happy New Year 2019, Chestnut Growers of America Members!

Our next annual meeting will be hosted by Roger Blackwell & Bill Nash in Michigan. We are planning a great session for Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Complete details will be found in

the April newsletter. Bill and I will be getting additional information out to all our members via email in the next month.

This newsletter has three great articles. The first article is provided by Carl and Art DeKleine on "Planting a Commercial Chestnut Orchard – Our Story". The two brothers have learned through trials and tribulations over the last 25 years about growing a great chestnut orchard. They are major contributors to growing the commercial chestnut industry in Michigan.

The next article is an update on the AIMS project from Dr. Jeanne Romero-Severson titled "Speed bumps on the way to keeping track of your stuff". Questions asked are: How is the Ancestry Informative Markers (AIMs) Project for Chestnut Trees progressing? What is the next step in the project? The use of genomics technology is explained with the assistance of her Notre Dame colleagues willing to help with the project.

The third article to reference in this newsletter is contributed by Erin Lizotte, Michigan State University Extension Agent titled "Preparing chestnut orchards for winter". Erin describes in detail how preparing chestnuts for winter, including sunscald prevention and soil testing, can all be taken care of just after the harvesting season. This is all good information to know and utilize.

Please remember the purpose of CGA is to promote chestnuts, to share information among growers of chestnuts, to improve communications between growers within the industry, to support research and breeding work, and generally to further the interests and knowledge of Chestnut growers. Thank you all for your contributions to CGA.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. See you all in Michigan June 2019.

Best Regards,

Roger

# AIMS Project Update: Speed Bumps on the Way to Keeping Track of Your Stuff

By Jeanne Romero-Severson, Professor, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN | [jromeros@nd.edu](mailto:jromeros@nd.edu)

For background information on the AIMS project, see the cover article published in the January 2018 issue of *The Chestnut Grower*. Past newsletters are available on the members-only page of the CGA website, [chestnutgrowers.org](http://chestnutgrowers.org).

Many of you have contributed cultivars and progeny to the AIMS project – thank you! And many of you may be wondering why this is taking so long. A project like this is like building a house. Grading the site, getting the utilities in, pouring the footings and getting the basement done takes time and must be done right, else none of the rest will be right. This update discusses some of the speed bumps we've run into in that process.

The ultimate goal of the AIMS project is to determine the species ancestry and the immediate pedigree (grandparents, parents and siblings) of any chestnut tree submitted for testing, at a price point no higher than \$50 per tree. The “development” part of research and development is the underground, backroom, in-the-basement part of science, where great ideas go to grow up and become practical, cost-effective procedures. During this maturation process some great inspirations turn into dismal failures. What happens then? Right! You get over it and try again. This is where we are with the AIMS project.

## What Works?

What we have that works is tissue storage

and DNA extraction and keeping track of your samples. None of that work needs to be redone. We have tried an array of technologies to do the genotyping and have tested one that works spectacularly well. This is called sequence capture, followed by high throughput genotyping. This technology meets our twin criteria: 1) at least 90% of the DNA markers we submitted were successfully sequenced and 2) every sample we submitted had less than 10% missing data.

So why haven't we just declared victory and gotten on with genotyping everything? Because this technology would cost \$150/sample if we do at least 90 samples at once. The price per sample does not drop if we do more, but rises if we do less. This

is not a price that is affordable for most growers. This price is feasible, perhaps, for a cultivar patent application, or a forensic case, but not for ascertainment of ancestry, immediate pedigree, or barcoding for the hundreds or even thousands of trees in a breeding program.

## What Doesn't Work?

There are many companies in the world who claim that their high-tech, high-throughput genotyping service is the answer to all genotyping needs. One of my collaborators on this project became convinced that Company A had a technology that would be perfect for what we are trying to do, for a price point we could afford. I decided to try this, because

*Continued on page 8...*

## Mark Your Calendars!

**For the Chestnut Growers of America 2019 Annual Meeting in East Lansing, Michigan, hosted by Roger Blackwell and Bill Nash.**

**June 7 - 9, 2019**

*More details, including registration and lodging information, coming in the April issue!*

## Happy New Year!

**Your 2019 membership dues are now due. You have two options:**

### **Renew Online**

Download a fillable form from the CGA website at [www.chestnutgrowers.org/2019\\_CGA\\_Membership\\_Application\\_fillable.pdf](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/2019_CGA_Membership_Application_fillable.pdf). If you receive the e-version of the newsletter, the form is also attached to that email. Complete the form and email it to Jack Kirk, CGA secretary/treasurer, at [jackschestnuts@gmail.com](mailto:jackschestnuts@gmail.com). You can then pay your dues through the CGA website by visiting [www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html). Please make sure you submit both your application and payment at the same time! ~OR~

### **Renew by Mail**

Please fill out, detach, and return the membership renewal form included with this issue on page 9. Send the form with a check made payable to Chestnut Growers of America, Inc. to Jack Kirk, 2300 Bryan Park Ave., Richmond, VA 23228.

*Renew now - a \$5 discount on membership dues applies if payment is submitted by February 15, 2019! If you are a new member who joined after August 1, 2018, your dues are already paid for 2019.*



The dream quickly became a reality. We purchased the land – 8 acres on a sandy-loam ridge sloping down on both sides. The old farm land had fence rows and big trees in and on the side of the property. It took three years to clear the land, get the soil nutrients to an acceptable level, and order the trees.



Planning the tree layout and ordering the chosen varieties took more time than we anticipated. We liked the eight-productive-trees-with-one-pollinizer pattern that we had used in the past. We used a 20' x 20' pattern on half of the orchard, and a 20' x 40' pattern on the other half. We know that in about 12 years the 20' x 20' pattern will need to be thinned to a 20' x 40' pattern when the trees canopy.

Spacing - Trees/Acre Estimates

20 x 20	- 100
40 x 40	- 27
30 x 30	- 50
20 x 40	- 55
20 x 30	- 70

Commercial growers, like us, want a large volume of good nuts commonly grown by other growers (for sale identification), all nuts suited for the climate and soil conditions, all trees ripening at the same time, all trees asking for the same care, and all trees satisfied with the same well-timed pollinizers.

We decided to stick with the Colossal variety for production. The Colossal has a larger nut than many other varieties, is sweet when cured well, sells well, and grows well in our climate. We have had a number of pollinizers die in our climate, so we planted about eight different pollinizer varieties. Grafted trees can be purchased as either bare-root for spring planting or potted for fall planting. We chose bare-root trees in the spring from the Washington Chestnut Company ([www.WashingtonChestnut.com](http://www.WashingtonChestnut.com)). They have been good to us in the past and have supplied very good trees. We needed to order the trees a year in advance. Depending on where one lives, shipping chestnuts and chestnut wood across state lines can be problematic.



Once the land had been prepared, the trees ordered, and longer warmer days were on the way, it was time to figure out how to get 450 trees in the ground quickly.

The first order of business was contracting a surveyor to mark the spots in the orchard where the trees needed to be planted. A professional surveyor is fast (4 hours to mark 450 trees), accurate (within



an inch), and expensive. The surveyor points to a spot, says “there,” orange paint is applied to the spot, and we are on to the next spot. We have tried, to no avail, to find an accurate way to use personal GPS devices to mark spots for trees. We received good advice from friends: “If you need something accurately measured, need to mark a property line, or have a measurement that could be litigated, hire a licensed surveyor!”

We then practiced drilling holes with a PTO tractor post-hole auger. That worked so well that we dug all the holes in one day (7 hours). Having secured the help of six students and amassed support stakes, tree shields, shovels, and tree markers, all 450 trees were planted in five hours.



The next step was putting in 5/8” electrical conduit tree stakes. A high-pressure hose was attached to the sprayer, one student pushed the high-pressure hose 2' into the ground, and a second student put an 8' conduit into the hole. That job took about 3 hours.

The last important job was making sure that the trees received enough water during the summer. Our irrigation specialist recommended underground Netafim drip line on both sides of each tree row. The Internet shows all the advantages of this drip tape. For us, the biggest advantage will be weed control and harvest without irrigation tubes down the tree rows to contend with.



We found suggestions for laying the tape on YouTube. We purchased a 3-point



sub-soil trenching tool, constructed the suggested tape-laying pieces, borrowed a Kobota tractor from a friend, and went to work. The tractor was the right size for the job. Nothing broke. Approximately 3.5 miles of drip tape were laid in one day.

Since the trees had very small root zones, hand watering, using our orchard sprayer, was required several times during the summer. It took the two boys 3 hours to give each of the trees 2 ½ gal of water. The trees and a moisture gauge would tell us when water was needed.



In our orchards we grow both cherries and chestnuts. Except for harvest and a couple of multi-person jobs, hired labor consists of a brother-in-law and two high-school students. Over the past 50 years we have had amazingly good help. The help is paid for the lunch period, and it is expected that all of us will eat noon lunch together. This helps all of us connect with one another and share plans and expectations. It doesn't take long for



“As two retired guys, we like to share stories, especially chestnut stories. We firmly believe that we have benefited significantly just by talking to other chestnut enthusiasts. Sometimes we let our trees suggest good farming practices. We chuckle at the thought that they know they will be around long after we're gone; but nevertheless, they continue to pretend that we are in charge.”



an informed and cooperative effort to be realized.

Some work was needed getting irrigation water from the well to the field. We laid out the plans, purchased the PVC pieces, and the two boys efficiently and quickly put the system together.



Watching and communicating with the trees is also important. We think the trees are telling us that we should spend some

more time thinking about weed control practices. And we chuckle at the thought that the trees know they will be around long after we're gone; but nevertheless, they continue to pretend that we are in charge.

We certainly have had fun for 25 years, learned a lot, and have benefited from sharing stories with others. We still don't know who will take over the orchard when we are older, but we intend to enjoy the orchard and spin more stories **for ever and ever.** 🍓



# Preparing Chestnut Orchards for Winter

By Erin Lizotte, Michigan State University Extension | [taylo548@msu.edu](mailto:taylo548@msu.edu)

As chestnut harvest wraps up, you will need to prepare orchards for winter. Preventing sunscald and vole damage, winterizing irrigation, planning for any orchard expansions and soil testing can all be taken care of at this time.

## Preventing Sunscald

Sunscald occurs when large temperature swings take place in the transition between a sunny day and cold night. It occurs on the south or west facing portions of the trunk that receive the most sunlight and occurs when the sun warms the bark of a tree and causes the cells just under the bark to break dormancy. When the sun sets and the temperature rapidly drops, the cells that have broken dormancy are destroyed.

Young trees with thin bark are more susceptible to sunscald, but it can occur on mature chestnut trees. Damage from sunscald leaves bark with a sunken appearance where cells have died. The cankers that erupt due to bark death can look similar to chestnut blight and open the tree up to secondary pathogens and long-term issues.

Sunscald can be managed by applying white latex paint from the soil line of the trunk up to the first branches. White paint

helps reflect the sun and prevents the tree from overwarming on sunny winter days. Most growers dilute the paint with water to make it easier to apply and cover more trees. Paint should be reapplied regularly as it fades and the tree grows, ideally annually.

## Preventing Rodent Damage

Another issue growers face in the winter is vole damage. Voles and rodents in general can be a major problem for chestnut growers. Rodents girdle trees and can directly damage or consume nuts. Burrows and tunnels may also present tripping and falling hazards for agricultural workers. Common rodent pest species include voles, ground squirrels, deer mice, and house mice.

Rodent populations expand and contract based on a number of environmental factors and tend to be cyclical. Constantly fluctuating populations can make consistent integrated control programs difficult to maintain, but a regular combination of strategies including monitoring, habitat management, and rodenticide application are generally required to achieve reasonable control.

Voles typically only damage small trees (less than 3 years old), so it's best to apply



*Vole tunneling in orchard grass can be an indicator of pressure. Photo by Amy Irish Brown, MSU Extension.*

mouse guards each fall and remove them each spring. Mouse guards provide a physical barrier to prevent damage but must be removed each spring as they can girdle actively growing trees over time. Modifying environmental factors to moderate rodent populations can also be useful. Burning, mowing, using herbicides, or planting low growing ground cover to reduce vegetative cover can help make a site less attractive to rodents. Controlling ground cover also exposes rodents to greater risk of raptors, coyotes and other predators. Removing plant cover surrounding an agricultural area may also help in slowing movement of new rodents into a site.

You may also consider encouraging raptor predators through perches or nest boxes. Ideally, adjacent landowners can work together to manage large areas of land to prevent high rodent populations from becoming established.

Using rodenticides is another important component of an integrated rodent control program, but it is not a stand-alone control. Rodents have a relatively short lifespan and a high rate of reproduction, making lethal control strategies effective for a limited amount of time, further enforcing the need for an integrated approach to control. There are a limited number of rodenticides labeled for use in perennial cropping systems. Carefully review labels to ensure the site is listed before application. You can refer to the Michigan State University Extension article "Rodent control for Michigan fruit,



*Chestnut tree trunks painted white to avoid sunscald and cracking. Photo by Erin Lizotte.*



Young chestnut trees with mouse guards applied. Tree guards should be removed each spring and redeployed each fall.

nut and Christmas tree producers” ([www.canr.msu.edu/news/rodent\\_control\\_for\\_michigan\\_fruit\\_nut\\_and\\_christmas\\_tree\\_producers](http://www.canr.msu.edu/news/rodent_control_for_michigan_fruit_nut_and_christmas_tree_producers)) for more information on rodenticides.

### Deer Barriers

Growers with young trees need to consider deer control over winter. Deer can do an enormous amount of damage in a small amount of time. Deer browse dormant chestnut trees, typically stripping the buds and sometimes breaking whole branches off and rubbing tree trunks. This damage can affect the structure of the tree in perpetuity. Deer fencing is the most effective method of eliminating tree damage in the winter and nut feeding in the fall. Unfortunately, fencing may be cost prohibitive and producers might need to consider a multifaceted approach that is more labor intensive but requires less capital. For more information, you can refer to the MSU Extension bulletin “Deer Barriers, Fencing, Repellents and Dog Restraint Systems” ([www.canr.msu.edu/resources/deer\\_barriersfencing\\_repellents\\_dog\\_restraint\\_systems\\_e2672](http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/deer_barriersfencing_repellents_dog_restraint_systems_e2672)).

### Infrastructure Repairs

As the temperature drops, broken pipes from freeze damage and electrical equipment failure can result from poor winter preparation of irrigation equipment. Lyndon Kelley, MSU irrigation

educator, recommends spending time now on your irrigation equipment to help avoid irrigation start up repairs and delays next spring. Trickle, drip lines, and tape are designed to be self-draining, but manifolds and supply systems need attention to make sure no water pockets remain to freeze. Winter rodent damage can turn drip tape and trickle line into junk rapidly. Lines that are to be moved for next year are best stored in the barn. Lines over wintering in the field stand less rodent damage if not covered by plastic, plant material or mulch.

Now is also a good time to inspect each electrical box in the system for damage and holes that may be accessible for rodents. Sealing small holes helps keep rodent damage to a minimum. Snakes and mice have even been known to crawl into electrical boxes and control panels through small hole or underground conduit with unprotected ends resulting in electrical fire and damage. Locking down electrical power supplies helps prevent vandals from turning wells and pivots on midwinter and minimizes potential electrical system damage. Now is an excellent time to inspect grounding, system test resistance, and make repairs.

### Soil Testing

According to George Silva, MSU Extension soils expert, there are several advantages to testing your soil in the

fall. First, there is more time available in the fall to collect soil samples and make fertilizer decisions compared to spring. Weather conditions typically are more favorable for collecting soil samples as compared to spring. Unpredictable spring weather conditions can force postponement or even abandonment of soil testing for that year. As chestnut sites often require the use of soil acidifying applications of sulfur, fall applications can take advantage of frost heave and snow melt to move sulfur into the soil and affect the pH and nutrient availability before trees begin growing again in the spring.

Based on the soil test results, fertilizer can also be purchased prior to the end of the year. Fertilizer is often cheaper in the fall compared to spring, when demand is high. Purchasing fertilizer prior to the end of the year could also potentially have favorable tax implications. Lastly, soil testing laboratories are busier in the spring compared to fall, as a majority of farmers, gardeners, and homeowners wait until spring to soil test. A longer wait for soil testing results may force delays in fertilizer timing.

### Planning for Next Year

Lastly, growers considering an orchard expansion should start planning for and ordering trees at this time. Larger quantities of trees typically require substantial lead time. For more information on orchard design, check out the Orchard Design and Establishment section of the MSU Extension Chestnuts website ([http://www.canr.msu.edu/chestnuts/establishing\\_orchards/orchard-design-establishment](http://www.canr.msu.edu/chestnuts/establishing_orchards/orchard-design-establishment)) and the new Chestnut Orchard Design factsheet ([http://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/234/70811/Chestnut\\_orchard\\_design\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/234/70811/Chestnut_orchard_design_factsheet.pdf)).

*This work is supported by the Crop Protection and Pest Management Program 2017-70006-27175 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

*This article was originally published on November 2, 2018 by Michigan State University Extension ([www.msue.msu.edu](http://www.msue.msu.edu)) and reprinted with permission.*

Continued from Page 3...

the cost of the trial was supported by the collaborator and not by the money CGA contributed to the project. This meant that we had to divert our attention to working on a set of samples the collaborator was interested in, in addition to the chestnut growers' samples. I thought that the risk was worth it under the circumstances. So, we invested a lot of time and spent the collaborator's money. The result was not a happy experience. Unhappy collaborator, unhappy applied scientist (me), unhappy graduate student who heroically tried everything he could to turn this pile of straw into even a little gold, and unhappy chestnut growers.

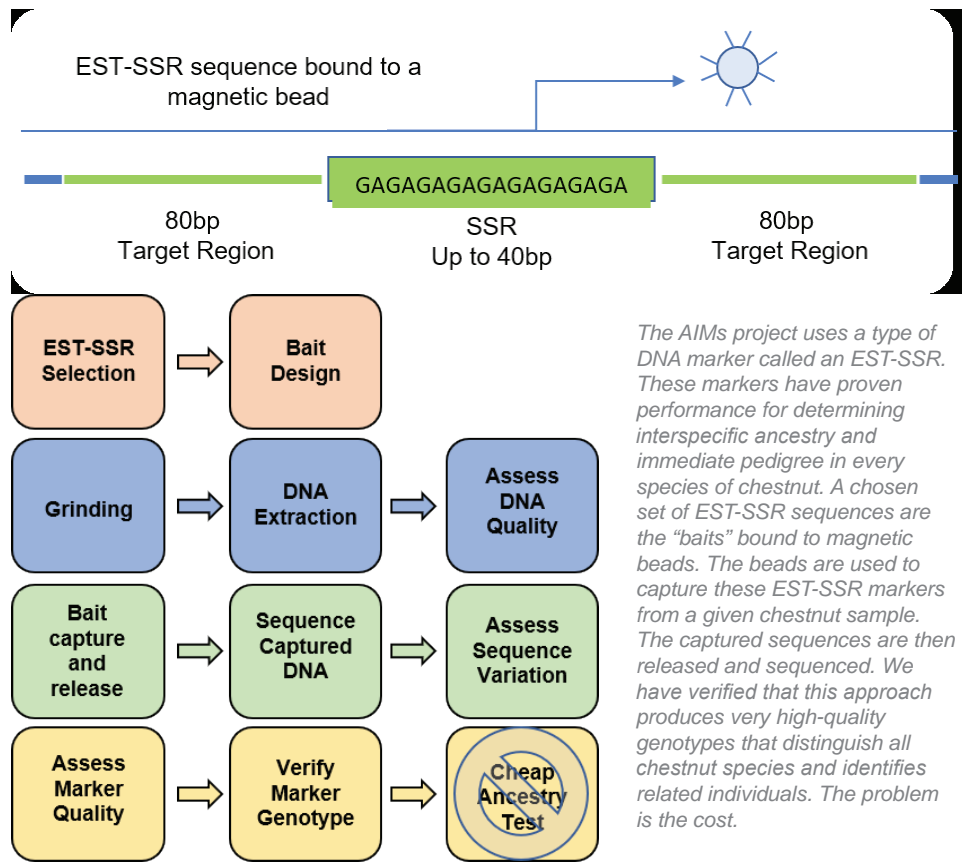


Sometimes your process doesn't work as planned.

### We Got Over It

The next plan is to go with a genotyping technology we know will meet our criteria, but every step must be done in our lab. This requires considerable expertise in genomics technology, but fortunately, my Notre Dame colleagues are willing to help. As we do this, we will work out how to make all these steps work better, but we know now that every step in the process already works. This is somewhat like having a good woodworking shop with every basic power tool you need to make a fancy rocking chair and having a good pattern for the pieces. Once you get good at making all the pieces and fitting them together, you can make a lot of fancy rocking chairs. So now we are busy doing the work of doing every step ourselves. We will report to all of you how this works this summer (with genotypes of your stuff). 🍓

Chestnut Growers of America has contributed \$10,000 to help fund the AIMS project research effort. You can contact Professor Romero-Severson with questions at 574-631-3938 (office) or jromeros@nd.edu.



An opportunity for Chestnut Growers in Iowa and the surrounding area...

## Chestnut Growers Workshop

**Saturday, February 2 | 9am–5pm**  
**Iowa Arboretum**  
**1875 Peach Ave | Madrid, IA 50156**

\$10 for Practical Farmers of Iowa Members  
 \$60 for Non-Members of Practical Farmers of Iowa  
 Lunch is included with registration.

*Join PFI now and receive the member registration rate for the workshop!*

*Speakers include:*

**Tom Wahl & Kathy Dice**, Red Fern Farm  
**Mike Gold**, Missouri Center for Agroforestry  
**Roger Smith**, Prairie Grove Chestnut Growers

Register and more info at <https://form.jotform.com/tamsyn/pfi-chestnut-workshop>  
 Questions? Contact Debra at Practical Farmers of Iowa at (515) 232-5661.





# 2019 Membership Application/Renewal Form

Chestnut Growers of America, Inc.

Please complete application and **EITHER** mail to: Chestnut Growers of America, Inc., Attn: Jack Kirk, 2300 Bryan Park Avenue, Richmond, VA 23228; **OR** email (scanned copy or fillable PDF, available for download at [www.chestnutgrowers.org/resources.html](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/resources.html)) to: [jackschestnuts@gmail.com](mailto:jackschestnuts@gmail.com).

For dues payment, **EITHER** mail check to Jack Kirk at Richmond address; **OR** submit your dues online via PayPal at [www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/paydues.html). Please ensure that you have submitted both your application and dues.

**A** Farm/Business/Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**B** First Name Last Name First Name Last Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Individual/First Household Member)

(Second Household Member)

\_\_\_\_ **New Member Application**

(please complete sections C-K below)

\_\_\_\_ **Renewal** (please complete sections I-K below)

\_\_\_\_ No updates to lines C-H below. Please use 2018 information.

\_\_\_\_ My information has changed. I have provided updates below.

**C** Address  
\_\_\_\_\_

**D** City State/Province Zip/Postal Code Country  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**E** Phone Fax  
( ) ( )  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**F** Email Website  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**G** Acreage in Chestnuts # of Trees Year First Planted 2018 Production (lbs.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**H** Cultivars Grown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I** Please send newsletters in the following format (\$5.00/year for print to cover cost of printing and postage):

\_\_\_\_ Email Only      \_\_\_\_ Print Only      \_\_\_\_ Both Email and Print

**J** Listing on the CGA website grower directory ([chestnutgrowers.org/growers](http://chestnutgrowers.org/growers); see reverse for more info):

\_\_\_\_ Free Listing      \_\_\_\_ Paid Listing      \_\_\_\_ Please do not list my information on the website.

**K** Membership Dues

\_\_\_\_ Household Membership \$45.00  
\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership \$35.00  
\_\_\_\_ Associate Membership \$50.00  
\_\_\_\_ Print Format Newsletters (see **I** above) \$5.00  
\_\_\_\_ Paid Listing on CGA Website (see **J** above) \$25.00

**Total Dues for 2019:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Renew Today!**

A \$5 discount applies if payment is submitted by February 15, 2019.



# Washington Chestnut Company

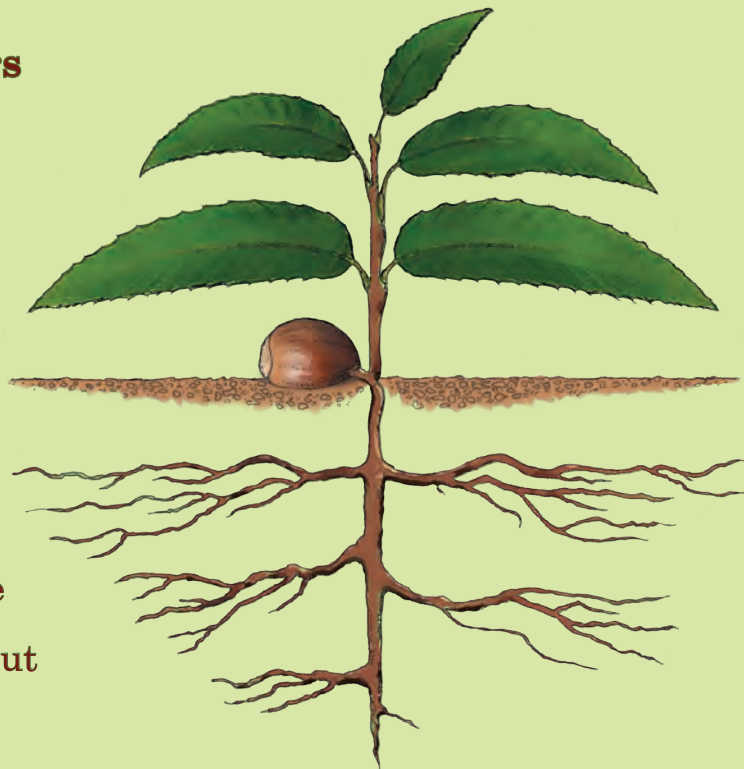


## Quality Chestnut Trees from a Reliable Source!

Washington Chestnut Company has become an industry leader in the propagation of chestnut trees. The chestnut trees we offer are grown in the Pacific Northwest, free of exposure to chestnut blight and gall wasps.

### Available Cultivars

Colossal  
Bouche de Betizac  
Prococe Migoule  
Maraval  
Marsol  
Marigoule  
Marrisard  
Bisalta #2  
Bisalta #3  
Belle Epine  
Gillet  
Szego  
Regis Montis  
Regina Montis  
Marrone di Comballe  
Marrone di Marradi  
Pure American Chestnut  
Bergantz  
...and more!



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Washington Chestnut Company  
6160 Everson Goshen Rd., Everson, WA 98247  
Phone (360) 966-7158

	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Income</b>				
Annual Mtg Registrations	2,355.00	4,486.59	3,290.00	1,815.00
Annual Mtg Silent Auction	215.00	282.00	1,039.00	--
Membership Dues	4,876.22	4,595.65	3,475.00	2,945.00
Online Grower Directory	380.00	125.00	0.00	325.00
Interest Income	58.09	66.73	54.72	6.42
Newsletter Advertising	140.00	133.68	25.00	80.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,024.31</b>	<b>9,689.65</b>	<b>7,883.72</b>	<b>5,171.42</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
DNA Study – AIMS Project	--	(10,000.00)	--	--
Annual Meeting	(1,787.22)	(3,740.93)	(1,117.97)	(885.67)
Directory	--	--	(196.54)	(177.31)
Insurance	(1,032.25)	(1,032.25)	(1,032.25)	(1,032.25)
Newsletter	(890.72)	(916.06)	(424.98)	(587.34)
Communications Director	(4,838.75)	(3,332.07)	(2,626.92)	(0.00)
Organizational Expenses	(50.00)	--	(100.87)	(114.97)
Website	(256.90)	(226.90)	(236.92)	(412.32)
Dues Collection Expenses	--	--	(0.00)	(109.98)
Bank Charges	--	--	(12.78)	(10.70)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(8,855.54)</b>	<b>(19,248.21)</b>	<b>(5,749.23)</b>	<b>(3,330.54)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(831.53)</b>	<b>(9,558.56)</b>	<b>2,134.49</b>	<b>1,840.88</b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b>23,785.82</b>	<b>33,344.38</b>	<b>31,367.89</b>	<b>29,527.01</b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>22,954.29</b>	<b>23,785.82</b>	<b>33,344.38</b>	<b>31,367.89</b>

Members	2018	2017	2016
Household	58	61	56
Individual	54	46	47
Associate	3	1	2
Honorary	0	0	1
Complimentary	2	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>110</b>

Summaries prepared by Jack Kirk, CGA Treasurer / Secretary.

**Renew Your CGA Membership for 2019**

Please complete the form on the previous page to renew your CGA membership for 2019. Alternatively, you can download a fillable PDF from the CGA website and pay your dues online via PayPal (see instructions at top of form). Thank you!

**Give your marketing a boost with a paid CGA Grower Directory listing**

The online Grower Directory ([www.chestnutgrowers.org/growers.html](http://www.chestnutgrowers.org/growers.html)) provides a way for potential customers to look up chestnut growers in their area. An option to post a paid listing helps your orchard stand out with a photo and more detailed information. From the listing, customers can link directly to your website or contact you via email. Your renewal form includes the option for you to select a paid listing (still \$25.00/year) or a free listing. CGA regularly directs outside inquiries about local chestnuts to the online directory, so this is a marketing opportunity you can't afford to miss!

**For Sale / Seeking**

SEEKING: Scion wood of Bergantz chestnut. Exchange possible. Contact: Davor Juretic, [juretic.davor@gmail.com](mailto:juretic.davor@gmail.com).

FOR SALE: Comm Chestnut Orchard + Home. N. Calif. Klamath River frontage. Appx. 800 Trees Colossal/Nevada. Trees are 20+ years old. Modern home 3+2; appx 2000 Sq. Ft. Off Grid - Solar Power; 55 Acres Total. Viewable on Goodle Earth. Website: [rockybarchestnuts.com](http://rockybarchestnuts.com). Link to Flickr for additional photos. Seller carry; \$595,000. Email: [Dhenn@dantel.com](mailto:Dhenn@dantel.com); Tel: (352) 633-6185.

**\*\*YOUR AD HERE\*\***

CGA members can post equipment or other items they want to buy or have for sale, free. Send your submissions to the editor at [chestnutgrowersofamerica@gmail.com](mailto:chestnutgrowersofamerica@gmail.com).

FOR SALE: Facma trailed harvester in great shape. Extra hoses for one or two-person setup. Contact Devon Milligan at (706) 681-1542.





Chestnut Growers of America  
 16 Pond Road  
 Deering, NH 03244

# THE CHESTNUT GROWER

January 2019



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Delmarvelous Orchards, DE



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Chestnut Ridge of Pike County, IL